

1
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
2
DISTRICT OF NEVADA

3 In re: Quashawn Saquan Sheridan

Case No. 2:25-cv-00440-CDS-NJK

4
Order Denying Petition for
5 Change of Name and Closing Case

6 [ECF Nos. 1, 1-1]

7
8 Quashawn Saquan Sheridan applies to proceed *in forma pauperis* to petition the court for a
9 change of name. ECF Nos. 1, 1-1. Federal courts “have an independent obligation to determine
10 whether subject-matter jurisdiction exists[.]” *Arbaugh v. Y&H Corp.*, 546 U.S. 500, 514 (2006)
11 (internal citation omitted). When subject matter is not established, the courts are empowered
12 to *sua sponte* dismiss a case when such jurisdiction is lacking. Fed. R. Civ. P. 12(h)(3). Here,
13 there is no federal subject matter jurisdiction to entertain a petition for change of name. Such
14 requests are generally made to the state courts. Thus, because there is nothing upon which this
15 court may rely to exercise subject matter jurisdiction, Sheridan’s petition must be denied.16
Conclusion17 IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Sheridan’s petition for adult name change [ECF No. 1-1]
18 is denied without prejudice so that he may proceed in the Eighth Judicial District Court for
19 Clark County, Nevada.¹20 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Sheridan’s application to proceed *in forma pauperis* [ECF
21 No. 1] is denied as moot.

22 The Clerk of Court is kindly instructed to close this case.

23 Dated: March 18, 2025

24
25 Cristina D. Silva
United States District Judge
26

¹ Sheridan may seek to proceed *in forma pauperis* in the Eighth Judicial District Court for Clark County, Nevada by filing an application for a waiver of costs and fees under Nev. Rev. Stat. § 12.015.